

**Greatest Of All Times**

**108**

**G  
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A  
T**

**Globally selected  
PERSONALITIES**



**29 Aug 1905 <::><::><::> 3 Dec 1979**

Compiled by:  
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29 Aug 1905



3 Dec 1979

The Hockey Wizard

Major

**Dhyan Chand**

The Wizard

"You are doubtless aware that I am a common man, and then a soldier. It has been my training from my very childhood to avoid limelight and publicity."

<<< Dhyan Chand



Dhyan Chand scoring a goal against Germany in the 1936 Olympic Hockey Final.



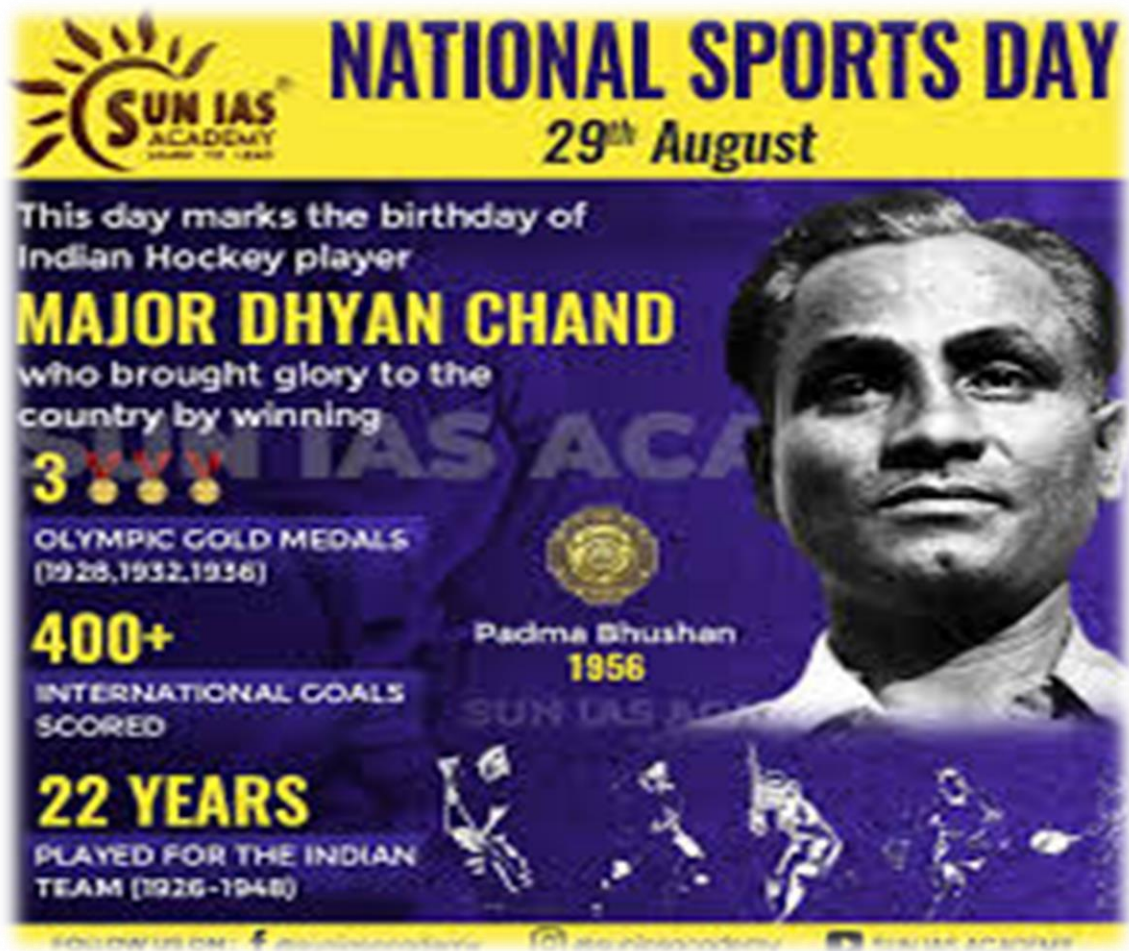
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<https://archive.org/details/mgr-2023-dpes-dhyan-chand>


Profile

# Dhyan Chand




**SUN IAS ACADEMY** **NATIONAL SPORTS DAY**  
29<sup>th</sup> August


This day marks the birthday of Indian Hockey player **MAJOR DHYAN CHAND** who brought glory to the country by winning

**3**   
OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALS (1928, 1932, 1936)

**400+**  
INTERNATIONAL GOALS SCORED

**22 YEARS**  
PLAYED FOR THE INDIAN TEAM (1926-1948)

 Padma Bhushan 1956



FOOTWEAR BY: f asics | @suniasacademy | @suniasacademy | SUN IAS ACADEMY

[Please visit to know his Biography](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Uj22l6RP0E>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M9jtV6C4t9s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MFBCmce34Lc>



## Life

Dhyan Chand was born in Allahabad to Sameshwar Dutt Singh on 29th August, 1905. His father was in the British Indian army where he played hockey. Dhyan Chand loved to wrestle as a youngster though he was not much inclined towards other sports. At the age of 16 Dhyan Chand joined the army and started playing hockey seriously during his army stint, often practicing late in the night after duty hours. Due to his skills he was selected to play in the Indian Army Team which was to tour New Zealand in 1926. Dhyan Chand played a monumental role in India winning 3 successive Olympic hockey gold medals (in 1928, 1932 and 1936).

He was made the captain of the Indian hockey team in 1934 and subsequently captained the gold winning team at the Berlin Olympics in 1936. At the Berlin Olympics, Hitler was so impressed with his play that he offered to make him colonel in the German army, if he agreed to play for Germany. At the age of 43, he led the hockey team to the tour of East Africa in 1947. In this tour Dhyan Chand scored 61 goals in 21 matches that India played. Dhyan Chand bid adieu to international hockey in 1949. He retired as Major and was also the Chief Hockey Coach at the National Institute of Sports. Over his sporting career he had scored more than 1,000 goals out of which 400 were international ones. For his extraordinary achievements, the Indian government awarded him the Padma Bhushan in 1956. On Dec 3, 1979 this hockey legend passed away. A statue of this hockey legend with four hands and four sticks was erected in Vienna depicting his master control over the ball. His birthday, 29 August, is celebrated as National Sports Day in India every year.

## Career

- ❖ He joined the Indian Army when he was just 16. He started playing hockey seriously during his army stint, often practicing late in the night after duty hours.
- He was a good player and from 1922 started playing in army hockey tournaments. Due to his skills he was selected to play in the Indian Army Team which was to tour New Zealand in 1926.



- His team won 18 matches out of 21 in the tournament and Dhyan Chand was greatly appreciated for his performances. He was promoted to Lance Naik upon his return to India.
- + Field hockey was reintroduced in the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics and the Indian Hockey Federation (IHF) wanted to send its best team for the event. Dhyan Chand with his great performance in the inaugural nationals secured a place in the team.
- ✓ The Indian team went to Amsterdam and beat the Dutch, German and Belgian teams in the pre-Olympic matches by huge margins. Chand scored three goals in India's debut Olympic match against Austria, winning 6-0.
- India also won the matches against Belgium, Denmark and Switzerland on their way to the finals.
- In the final match held on 26 May 1928, India faced the home team of Netherlands. Some of the India's top players were on the sick list and India's chances looked bleak. However, the team still managed to beat Netherlands 3-0 and India won her first Olympic gold medal.
- + Dhyan Chand emerged as the hero of the 1928 Olympics by scoring 14 goals in five matches.
- ❖ For the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics, Dhyan Chand was automatically selected to the Indian hockey team while the rest of the team mates had to play in the Inter-Provincial tournament to earn their places. His brother Roop Singh also secured a place in the team.
- India's first match in the 1932 Olympics was against Japan which it won 11-1. It proved to be a good omen as India went on to win many other matches before triumphing in the finals to clinch the gold once again.
- After the Olympics the team went on an international tour covering United States, England and several other countries. By the end of the tour, India had won 34 matches out of 37 with Chand scoring 133 of the 338 goals scored by India.
- + He was made the captain of the Indian hockey team in 1934 and he led the team to the 1936 Berlin Olympics. There too he worked his magic and team win the gold medal - India's third successive gold in field hockey.
- He continued playing hockey till the late 1940s and retired from army as a Major in 1956. He became a coach after his retirement.



*'You score goals like runs in cricket'*

<<< Sir Donald Bradman [Left]

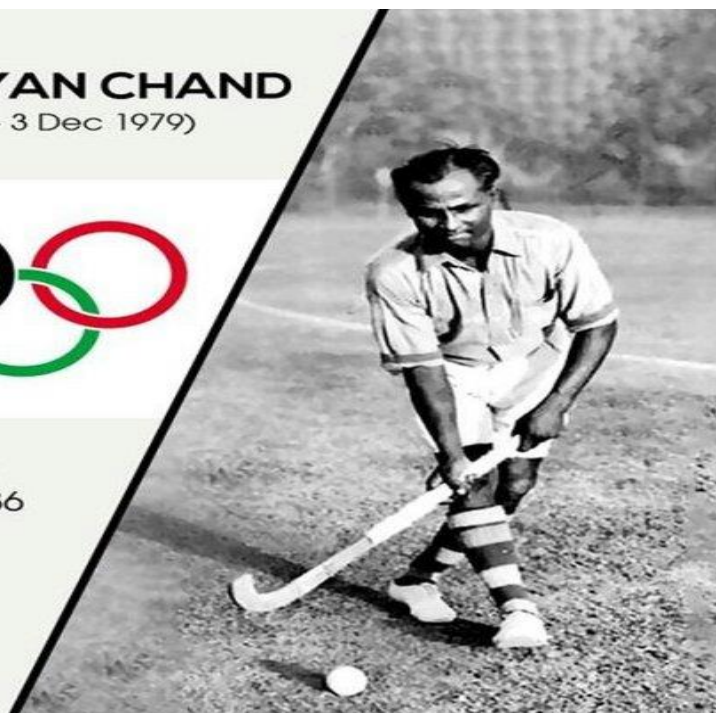
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**GOALS** <<::>> **Dhyhan Chand**

**MAJOR DHYAN CHAND**  
(29 Aug 1905 - 3 Dec 1979)



**3 GOLDS**  
1928, 1932, 1936

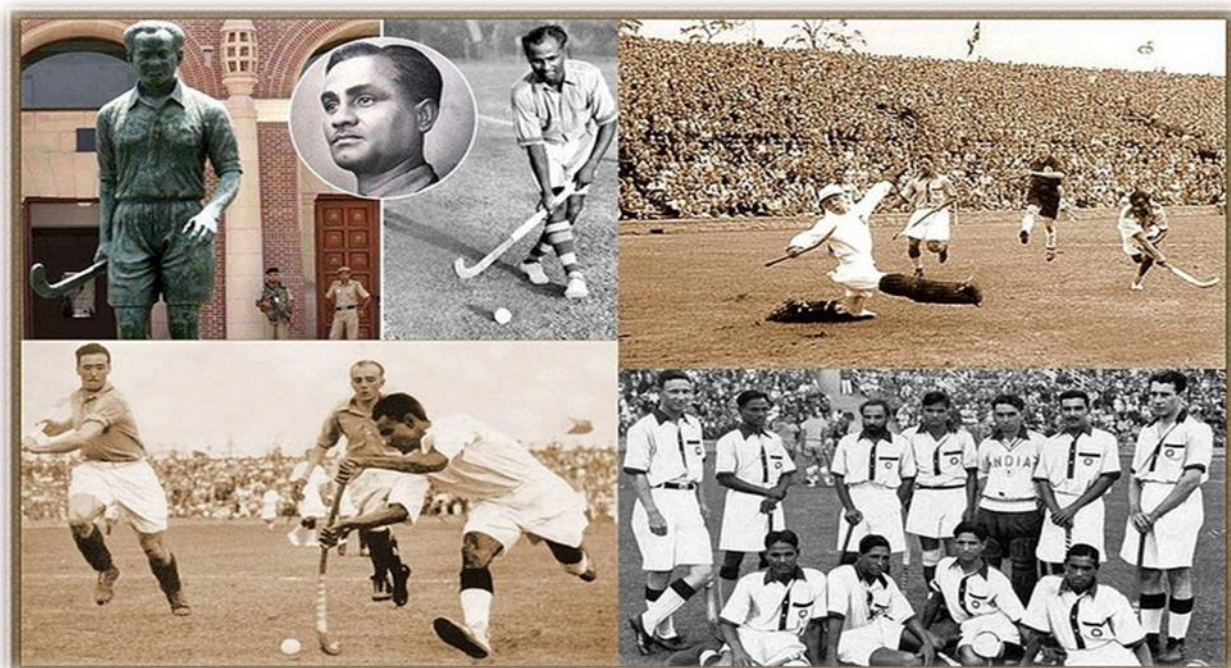


BBC called him the "hockey's equivalent of Muhammad Ali". The Government of India awarded Chand India's third highest civilian honour, the Padma Bhushan in 1956. His birthday, 29 August, is celebrated as National Sports Day in India every year. India's highest sporting honour, **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award** is named after him.

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### 1936 Olympics Hockey Team

- 01] DHYAN CHAND (CAPTAIN : Centre-forward)
- 02] CARLYLE TAPSELL (Left-back )
- 03] JOSEPH GALIBARDY (Left-half )
- 04] SAYED MOHAMMED JAFFAR (Left-winger )
- 05] ROOP SINGH (Inside-left )
- 06] RICHARD ALLEN (Goalkeeper)
- 07] ERNEST JOHN GOODSIR-CULLEN (Centre-half)
- 08] ALI IQTEDAR SHAH DARA (Inside-right)
- 09] SHABBAN SHAHABUDDIN (Right-winger)
- 10] BABU NIMAL (Right-half)
- 11] MOHAMMED HUSSAIN (Right-back)



# Dhyan Chand meets Hitler

As the hockey wizard showed his prowess  
against Germany in the Olympics final,  
the Fuhrer was more than impressed.

Please visit:

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/comment/when-dhyan-chand-met-hitler-in-1936-284818>

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Article by: Lt Col AK Ahlawat



The 1936 Olympics in Berlin were organised to showcase the German Third Reich as a diadem of the world. The Germans defeated the Indian hockey team 4-1 in a practice match. This sent a warning down the spine of a complacent Indian squad, basking in old glory of two previous gold medals in 1928 and 1932. The Indians sent an SOS telegram to New Delhi to send Captain Ali Iqtedar Shah, another fine player of the Indian squad who had been denied leave by his English Commanding Officer to take part in the Olympics.



His teammates called him Dara. Dhyan Chand and Dara both belonged to the Punjab Regiment. Dhyan Chand, the team captain, was enrolled in the clerk trade and held the rank of Naik at that time. Dara was airlifted from Delhi and managed to reach Berlin in the nick of time.

The day was August 15, 1936. As predicted, Germany and India reached the finals and the two teams stood facing each other in the hockey stadium. At 11 am sharp, the whistle blew and the match started. In the grandstand sat Hitler, confident of Germany winning the match on the strength of the practice match results. The Germans had already sent an invitation to the Indian team for a social evening to fete the victors.

In the first half, the Indians were unable to pierce the German defence. In one rally by Dhyan Chand, the German goalkeeper collided with him and the goalkeeper's hockey stick stuck him in the face. Dhyan Chand collapsed on the field and had to be carried out. The Germans struck in the meanwhile and scored a goal. At half-time, Germany led by a solitary goal.

Dhyan Chand had lost a few teeth but was revived. He decided to change from stud-soled shoes to rubber-soled canvas PT shoes, his normal footwear. The game resumed, and the Germans were aggressive. The Indian captain played a mesmerising game, controlling the ball as if by divine wizardry and fired in three quick goals. Hitler left the match midway. The final score was India 8, Germany 1.

In the evening function, a German officer came to Dhyan Chand and said the Fuhrer wanted to meet him. Hitler stood talking to the German players. Joseph Goebbels stood in the background. Himmler stood adjusting his pince nez.

"Mein Fuhrer, the Indian team Kapitan Herr Dhyan Chand."

Now what transpired has been related by Dhyan Chand in his own words.

"I did a salaam to the Fuhrer. Hitler scanned me from top to bottom. I am not a tall man. I was wearing the only coat I possessed and my canvas PT shoes with white pants."

"You are the hockey wizard everyone is blaming for turning the tables in today's match. Congratulations, your team played magnificently. I am told you had an injury in the match. How are you now?"

The translator translated from German to English. Dhyan Chand smiled and looked calmly at Hitler. "Shukriya Janab. I have left a tooth in Germany in today's match but otherwise I am fine. We are grateful for your fine hospitality."

Hitler started smiling when he heard the answer and he spoke again. "What do you do when not playing hockey?"

"Janab, I am in the Indian Army."

"What is your rank?"

"Janab, I am a Naik or Corporal."

"A Corporal. Even I have been a Corporal in my young days. You are a man of great ability and prowess. I can't believe that the British don't value your worth Herr Dhyani Chand. I offer you to join the German army as an officer. Clearly you know how to gain victories for your side."

There was total silence as the dictator spoke. The surrounding Nazis looked expectantly at Dhyani Chand's face. When he answered, he told the translator, "Please tell His Excellency the Fuhrer that I am deeply honoured by his generous offer. However, humble my rank, I am an Indian and India is my home. I am happy remaining a poor Corporal among my own people."

Hitler nodded his head slightly, looked at him again and moved on to meet other people.

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## 4 Hat-tricks in Olympics

A gold-laden History

The men's team dominated the prestigious event in the early years, winning six consecutive golds from 1928 to 1956.

<https://olympics.com/en/featured-news/how-indian-hockey-team-olympic-games-gold-medals>

(😊) \*\*\*\*\* (😊)

## ***Amsterdam 1928***

India won their first Olympic hockey gold in the 1928 Olympic Games at Amsterdam. The sport returned to the Olympic fold after eight years, having last been played at Antwerp 1920.

The Games saw the emergence of a certain wizard who went by the name of Dhyan Chand, though his genius was yet to be discovered. The Indian hockey legend scored 14 goals to end the event as top-scorer.

India scored 29 goals without reply across five matches and fittingly, it was Dhyan Chand's hat-trick that secured a 3-0 victory in the final over home side, the Netherlands that gave the Indian hockey men's team its first-ever gold medal at the Games.



The India and Netherlands hockey teams pose together for a group portrait ahead of the final of the men's hockey event at the 1928 Summer Olympics in Amsterdam, Netherlands.



## Los Angeles 1932

The 1932 Games at Los Angeles saw several bruised egos in the Indian hockey squad as the 'Indians' and the 'Anglo-Indians' were at odds against one another with one member of the squad even refusing to wear a turban, a part of the official team attire.

Fortunately, though, the players opted to channel their frustrations on the hockey pitch, which itself was reduced to just three nations competing - India, hosts USA and Japan.

The Indian hockey team decimated the hosts 24-1 in their first game, with Roop Singh, Dhyani Chand's younger brother, scoring a scarcely believable 10 goals. Dhyani Chand scored eight.

With such fearsome form coming into the 'final', Japan stood no chance and predictably, the Indian hockey team thrashed them 11-1 to win a second consecutive Olympic gold medal.



Indian Hockey Team in 1932 Olympics.

## Berlin 1936

Barefoot and without a tooth, Dhyan Chand's magic took centre stage at Berlin 1936.

Surrounded by self-doubt heading into the Berlin Olympics, the Indian team put up a great show to win its third straight Olympic gold medal in 1936.

The 1936 Games in Berlin saw the Indian hockey team bag a third Olympic gold medal and it was a fitting send-off for the then 31-year-old Dhyan Chand, who announced his retirement post the tournament and was promptly handed captaincy.

They went on yet another dominant run, scoring 30 goals and conceding none against Hungary, USA, Japan and France in the league stages and the semi-final as Dhyan Chand and Roop Singh again featured heavily in the scoring charts.

The final saw another star performance from the wizard, who scored a hat-trick, his second in Olympic finals, as the Indian hockey team beat hosts Germany 8-1 to ensure that Dhyan Chand retired with three Olympic golds to his name.

### The epic conversation between Adolf Hitler and Dhyan Chand :

**Hitler** (while casting a glance at the sub-standard canvas shoes of Dhyan Chand): "What else do you do, when not playing hockey ?"

**Dhyan Chand**: "I am in the Indian Army."

**Hitler**: "What is your rank?"

**Dhyan Chand**: "I am Lance Nayak."

**Hitler**: "Come over to Germany. I will make you a Field Marshal."

Dhyan Chand: "India is my country and I am fine there."

Hitler: "As you like it."



Indian Hockey Team in 1936 Olympics.

## *London 1948*

India's Olympic journey began in 1900 and the only sport where India dominated was field hockey but the point is that India was not independent back then so the team who use to win gold medals before 1947 was "British India".

With World War II leading to the cancellation of the 1940 and 1944 Olympics, the Indian hockey side saw an enforced lull of 12 years at the Games but it ensured that India returned with a fourth gold medal and their first after independence.



The event saw the emergence of a new star in Balbir Singh Sr. The striker played a starring role as the Indian hockey team beat Argentina 9-1 and Austria 8-0 before overcoming Spain 2-0 in the semi-finals.

The final pitted them against hosts Great Britain, the first time the two nations played against one another since India gained independence a year earlier, and they were greeted by a 25,000-strong capacity crowd at the iconic Wembley Stadium.

However, the Indian hockey team showed no nerves as Balbir Singh Sr scored twice to help them to a comprehensive 4-0 win. The movie 'Gold', which released last year was based on the performances of this team at London 1948.



Indian Hockey Team in 1948 Olympics with officials.

## **Helsinki 1952**

Four years later, Balbir Singh Sr put up another heroic performance, scoring nine goals across three matches, eight of them in the semi-finals and finals, as the vice-captain of the team at Helsinki 1952.

The Indian hockey team first rolled Austria over 4-0 as the Europeans had no reply for a second-consecutive Olympics to the all-dominating team. In the semis, Great Britain managed one goal but were outdone by Balbir Singh Sr's hat-trick to go down 3-1.

India reserved their best for the last as they outdid the Netherlands 6-1 in the final, with Balbir Singh Sr scoring five goals and skipper KD Babu adding the finishing touches as the Indian hockey team reigned supreme for a fifth time at the Olympics.



Indian Hockey Team in 1952 Olympics with officials.

## **Melbourne 1956**

The crowning glory for the Indian hockey team came at the 1956 Games in Melbourne, as it completed a second hat-trick of Olympic golds and its first as an independent country.

India started the campaign with a breezy, by their own lofty standards, 6-0 win over Singapore and more than doubled that tally in a 14-0 win over Afghanistan before going two better to annihilate USA 16-0, in their first three league matches.

They were brought down to earth somewhat by Germany in the semis as they could notch only a solitary goal to progress to the final against Pakistan. It was supposed to be a tough fixture made more difficult by the fact that Balbir Singh Sr suffered a fracture in his right hand.

However, the striker, now promoted to captain, came up with a true leader's performance, playing through the pain to help his team eventually triumph 1-0 and lift a historic sixth Olympic gold.



Indian Hockey Team in 1956 Olympics with officials.



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# Brief History of Indian Hockey in Olympics

[1928 – 2021]

India hockey the most successful team in Olympic history



12 instances where India was on the podium  
at the Olympic games.



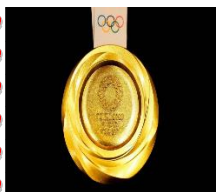
**Gold – Amsterdam, 1928**

The Olympics introduced the wizardry of Major Dhyan Chand to the world. India scored 29 goals in five matches while conceding none en route to their first hockey gold. Dhyan Chand was on the scoresheet 14 times. A glorious journey began. India's run consisted of a 6-0 mauling of Austria, a 9-0 thumping of Belgium, a 5-0 rout of Denmark, a 6-0 decimation of Switzerland, before a 3-0 win over hosts Netherlands in the final.



**Gold – Los Angeles, 1932**

India started their defence with an 11-1 rout of Japan with Roop Singh, Dhyan Chand's younger brother, scoring thrice. Dhyan Chand himself scored four times. Next, a 10-goal charge from Roop Singh and eight goals from the wizard himself secured a massive 24-1 win against the USA in the final. The scoreline remains a world record to the day.



**Gold – Berlin, 1936**

With Dhyan Chand as captain, the Indian hockey team completed a hat-trick of Olympic golds at Berlin 1936. This time, India scored 38 goals in five matches and only conceded one in the final against Germany. Dhyan Chand bagged his second hat-trick in the Olympic finals which sealed a thumping 8-1 victory.



### Gold – London, 1948

India continued their dominance in the Olympics after achieving independence in 1947. A new superstar of the game rose from the ranks in Balbir Singh Sr. India collected 19 goals in three games to progress to the final, where they hammered hosts Great Britain 4-0 to stretch their Olympic gold-winning streak to four.



### Gold – Helsinki, 1952

Having to deal with the cold conditions in Helsinki which they weren't quite used to back home, the Indian team marched their way to a staggering fifth gold medal on the trot, with Balbir Singh Sr. scoring nine goals in three games. India faced the Netherlands in the final, which they won 6-1, five of those goals being scored by Balbir.



### Gold – Melbourne, 1956

It almost started getting hopeless for their opponents at this stage as India won yet another gold in the men's hockey event at the Olympics to make it an unprecedented six in a row. However, this time, they squared off against neighbours Pakistan for the first time in the sport, winning the final by a narrow 1-0 margin. India maintained a clean sheet throughout their campaign.



### Silver – Rome, 1960

After all the years of various teams trying and failing to halt their juggernaut, it was Pakistan that finally brought India's gold-medal streak in the Olympics to an end as they defeated their neighbours by a 1-0 margin — similar to the one in the 1956 Olympic final, only this time they were the ones to score.



### Gold – Tokyo, 1964

After the shock defeat in Rome four years earlier, India was back on top in Olympic hockey as they ended up with gold medals around their necks the last the time Olympics took place in Tokyo. India entered the semis unbeaten, having won four of their six group games, before beating Australia in the semis. They faced Pakistan for a third consecutive time in the final, and the scoreline remained unchanged — 1-0.



**Bronze – Mexico City, 1968**

The golden era of India hockey was slowly starting to fade around this time, though the Indian team was still a force to reckon. The first time they failed to win a semi-final in the Olympics happened in the Mexican capital in 1968. Falling short against Australia in the semis by a 2-1 margin. India, however, would end their campaign on a high by beating West Germany 2-1 in the bronze medal match.



**Bronze – Munich, 1972**

The 1972 Olympics, remembered for all the wrong reasons in world history, saw India finish outside the top two in hockey for a second consecutive time, this time getting beaten by neighbours and rivals Pakistan 2-0. India once again bounced back from the semi-final defeat, this time beating Netherlands 2-1 in the bronze medal match.



**Gold – Moscow, 1980**

Moscow would be the last time India would win an Olympic medal in hockey for the next four decades. The path to the final was a relatively easy one thanks to a large number of major hockey forces missing from the Games due to the US-led boycott. In a tweaked format, India won three and drew two matches in round-robin stage to finish among the top two that qualified for the final. India would then edge Spain 4-3 in the final clash to collect their eighth gold and 11th medal overall, which would remain their last until Manpreet Singh and Co's bronze 41 years later.



**Bronze – Tokyo, 2021**



Manpreet-led Indian team began their campaign with a 3-2 victory over New Zealand, but suffered a 7-1 hammering at the hands of Australia in their second Pool A meeting. They quickly brushed off the defeat though, and would go on to win their next three group games, before defeating Great Britain 3-1 in the quarters to enter the semi-finals. It took one bad quarter in the clash against Belgium to leave them fighting for bronze. The team clinched their first medal in decades in spectacular fashion, bouncing from 1-3 down to sneak out a thrilling 5-4 win over Germany.

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## Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium



<b>Land Area</b>	:	<b>37 acres</b>
<b>Type</b>	:	Outdoor stadium. VIP seating covered with standing seam roof
<b>Seating Capacity</b>	:	14,000 in new open gallery and 6,000 in covered VIP gallery
<b>Total Floor area</b>	:	17500 sqm
<b>Entrance / Egress</b>	:	4 ramps for open gallery, 2 ramps for VIP gallery, staircases & lifts
<b>Score Boards</b>	:	Electronic score board & video screen
<b>Sports Disciplines</b>	:	Cricket, Hockey, Kabaddi, Lawn tennis, Swimming, Fitness Centre
<b>Sports Facility</b>	:	2 international standard competition pitches, 1 training / warm up pitch
<b>Lighting &amp; PA system</b>	:	High mast sports lighting & distributed PA system

[https://saijobs.sportsauthorityofindia.gov.in/index1.asp?ls\\_id=5806](https://saijobs.sportsauthorityofindia.gov.in/index1.asp?ls_id=5806)

# National Sports Day 2024



Paris Olympic Bronze medalist Indian Hockey players pay tribute to Major Dhyan Chand at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in New Delhi.

**National Sports Day 2024:** National Sports Day all over the world is celebrated on August 29 every year. Sports are important for the physical and mental well-being of humans. Individuals who play sports remain healthy. India has produced many sporting legends like PT Usha, also known as Udanpari, Sachin Tendulkar, also known as Master Blaster, and Major Dhyan Chand, also known as 'Hockey Wizard'.

## National Sports Day 2024: History

India celebrated the first National Sports Day on August 29, 2012. Sports Day marks the birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand who was born on this day. Widely known as the 'Hockey Wizard' and 'The Magician', Major Dhyan Chand was born on August 29, 1905.

## National Sports Day 2024: Significance

The primary motto of National Sports Day is to promote awareness about the significance of sports and being physically active in the day to day life. The Government of India also organises various programs, events, seminars etc. to raise awareness about the significance of National Sports Day. According to the FIT Indian website, the day is celebrated with an aim to raise awareness about the values of sports: discipline, perseverance, sportsman spirit, and teamwork, and to

encourage the public at large to take up sports and make it an integral part of their lives while emphasizing on the importance of being fit and healthy.

## Major Dhyan Chand

Widely known as the 'Wizard of Hockey', the greatest hockey player of India, Major Dhyan Chand Singh, was born on 29 August 1905 in present-day Prayagraj, UP. After getting a basic education, Dhyan Chand joined the Indian army as a soldier in 1922.

## Major Dhyan Chand's performance

Major Dhyan Chand was a great hockey player. If a ball stuck in his stick, it scored a goal. This was the reason that once his stick was broken during a match to check whether the stick had any magnet or something else inside it or not.

*Major Dhyan Chand, was part of the three-time Olympic gold medalist Indian Hockey Team. At the Berlin Olympic Games of 1936, Dhyan Chand was elected the captain of the Indian Hockey team.*

Major Dhyan Chand had scored more than 400 international goals in his career from 1926 to 1948 while scoring nearly 1,000 goals in his entire career.

In a bid to pay tribute to such a legendary player, the Government of India decided to celebrate his birthday as the National Sports Day in 2012.

Before this recognition, he was awarded the [Padma Bhushan Award](#) by the Government of India in 1956, the third-largest civilian honour in India.

National Sports Day is celebrated extensively at the national level. It is **organized every year in the Rashtrapati Bhavan and the President of India** presents National Sports Awards to the outstanding players of the country.

Under the National Sports Award, players and former players are honoured with awards such as [Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award](#), Arjuna Award, and Dronacharya Award. Along with all these honours, the "Dhyan Chand Award" is also given on this day.

After the death of Major Dhyan Chand in 1979, the Indian Postal Department paid tribute to him and issued stamps in his honour. As a tribute to him, the National Stadium of Delhi has been renamed Major Dhyan Chand Stadium, Delhi.

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## Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award

<https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/major-dhyan-chand-khel-ratna-award>

Recently, the Prime Minister renamed the **Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award**, the country's highest sporting honour, after hockey wizard **Major Dhyan Chand**.

- This came a day after the Indian men's hockey team won the **bronze medal** in the ongoing Tokyo Olympics and hours after the women's team finished fourth.

### Key Points

- **About:**

- The Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award will hereby be called the **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award**.
  - The now renamed Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna award **comes with a cash prize of Rs 25 lakh**.
- Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award is the **highest sporting award given by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for the spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports by a sportsperson over a period of four years**.
  - The award comprises **a medallion, a certificate, and a cash prize of Rs 7.5 lakh**.
- The Khel Ratna award was **instituted in 1991-1992** and the first recipient was Chess legend Viswanathan Anand. Among the other winners were Leander Paes, Sachin Tendulkar, Dhanraj Pillay, Pullela Gopichand, Abhinav Bindra, Anju Bobby George, Mary Kom and Rani Rampal in 2020.

## ▪ Major Dhyan Chand:

- Known as The Wizard, Major Dhyan Chand, a field hockey player, played international hockey from 1926 to 1949, scoring over 400 goals in his career.
  - Dhyan Chand, born in Allahabad, was **part of the Olympic team that won gold medals in 1928, 1932 and 1936.**
  - Apart from the Khel Ratna award, the **country's highest award for lifetime achievement in sports is known as the Dhyan Chand Award.** It was instituted in 2002.
  - The National Stadium in New Delhi was also renamed as the **Dhyan Chand National Stadium in 2002.**
  - The **National Sports Day is observed every year across India on 29<sup>th</sup> August** to mark the birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand who was born on 29<sup>th</sup> August 1905.
- The President of India on this occasion honours the eminent athletes from various sports with the prestigious **Khel Ratna, Arjuna Awards, Dronacharya Awards, and Dhyan Chand Award.**

### Arjuna Lifetime Award all set to replace Dhyan Chand Lifetime Award

The sports ministry on Thursday announced the discontinuation of the Dhyan Chand Award for lifetime achievement from this year onwards and the introduction of the Arjuna Award Lifetime in its place in a bid to "rationalise" the various sporting honours of the country.

Instituted in 2002, the Dhyan Chand Lifetime Award, named after hockey wizard Major Dhyan Chand, is given to individuals in disciplines that are part of the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games, among others.

In 2023, the award was given to former shuttler Manjusha Kanwar, ex-hockey exponent Vineet Kumar and kabaddi player Kavitha Selvaraj.

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Kindly visit the Web Link to watch some scenes  
of 1936 Olympic Hockey Match

Major Dhyan Chand: 1936 Olympics Match: India vs Germany ...

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=246005553871772>

Rare Footage | Berlin Olympics 1936 ft. Major Dhyan Chand

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=962846900820257>







**On this day in 1936**  
**Indian Hockey Team Won**  
**Gold at the Berlin Olympics**









Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium New Delhi





# *Evolution of* **Indian Hockey**



A brief history of Hockey in India. The game is popular not only with the players but also among spectators. Here is a glimpse of the exciting sport and its popularity over time!

## **Introduction**

Hockey is one of the sports that evolved from prehistoric man's pleasure of stick and ball games. It is a game played on a field by two teams using curved sticks and a small hardball. It originated in Asia, and authorities attribute its invention to Persia around 2000 BC. The origins of hockey can be traced back to 5000 years ago in Egypt. Hockey as we know it today (modern hockey) originated in England. Irish hurling was the true ancestor of hockey. In 1861, the first hockey club was formed in Black-heath. England and Ireland played the first international match in 1895. Hockey was first included in the modern Olympic Games in the year 1908.



The origins of the game of hockey may be traced back to the world's earliest civilisations. The game is said to have existed around 1200 years before the Ancient Games of Olympia, making it one of the earliest known games. Everyone from Arabs to Greeks to Romans to Persians to Ethiopians played some kind of game. Even though hockey was played in various forms by many ancient civilisations, the contemporary game of hockey, field hockey, was established in the British Isles in the nineteenth century. In India, the first club was founded in Calcutta in 1885-86, and Bombay and Punjab quickly followed suit. The Indian hockey juggernaut won six consecutive Olympic gold medals and 24 successive matches from 1928 to 1956.

Hockey arrived in India via British regiments and soon became one of the most established sports in the country. Hockey was Britisher's favourite pastime after cricket. The first hockey club in India was established in Calcutta in 1885-86, and Bombay and Punjab soon followed suit. The Indian hockey team won its first Olympic gold medal without conceding a single goal in its Olympic debut at the 1928 Amsterdam Games. The magician of Indian hockey legend Dhyan Chand was the defining feature of this resilient dominance. From 1928 to 1956, the ruthless Indian Hockey team won six consecutive Olympic gold medals while winning 25 games on the trot. During this golden phase, India managed to score 178 goals while conceding just seven.

## **Dominating the Olympics**

The Indian hockey team clinched the Olympic gold medal in its first attempt in 1928. India played five matches, scoring 29 goals and conceding none, with Dhyan Chand scoring 14 of them.

The hockey wizard became the cornerstone of the Indian hockey team as it won two more gold medals in 1932 and 1936, completing a hat-trick of Olympic hockey golds. Dhyan Chand was made captain in 1936 in what would prove to be his final Olympic Games.

When the Olympics returned after World War II in 1948, India found a new genius in the legendary Balbir Singh Sr as he steered them to a second hat-trick of Olympic gold medals in 1948, 1952, and 1956, this time as an independent nation. The period was one of the most significant in the history of hockey in India.

While Pakistan halted the gold run in the final at the 1960 Rome Olympics, India would ascend to the top step at Tokyo 1964. However, it was apparent that India's domination of the sport was weakening.

The Indian hockey team had won silver at the 1958 and 1962 Asian Games, before finally winning gold in the 1966 edition. However, India only managed a bronze at Mexico 1968, in what was then their lowest finish in the Olympics.

## **Women's Team**

Hockey expanded its reach beyond the Olympics with the first Hockey World Cup held in 1971 in Spain. Though Pakistan beat Spain to win the title and India finished third, the sport was steadily gaining popularity in Europe, and innovations were underway.

India did manage another bronze at the 1972 Olympics in Munich, before making the World Cup final in 1973, where they lost to the Netherlands.



While India's representation in global hockey was largely restricted to the men, the women's team made its first appearance in international competition at the inaugural women's Hockey World Cup in 1974, finishing a creditable fourth.

There seemed to be an upturn when the men's team won its only World Cup title in 1975.

But the 1976 Montreal Olympics was the first to be played on astroturf – artificial grass fields specially curated for the sport - and the men's Indian hockey team finished seventh.

It ended India's Olympic podium run for the first time while the women's team mustered a similar finish at the 1978 World Cup.

In this decade, the men's team also ended up with three consecutive Asian Games silver medals in 1970, 1974, and 1978.

### **Period of Stagnation**

The 1980s actually began well for the Indian hockey teams.

The men's team took advantage of a depleted field to win their eighth Olympic gold at Moscow 1980 while the women's team finished fourth in what was the first edition of women's hockey at the Olympics.

At the **1982 Asian Games** in New Delhi, where women's hockey was played for the first time, the women's Indian hockey team clinched a historic gold at home while the men's team won silver.

However, there were no more accolades forthcoming after this period.

India was slow to take to the AstroTurf's, with local players still mostly playing on natural grass fields, which meant that the Indian hockey teams fell short at global events.

Neither the men nor the women were able to make the semi-finals at the World Cups or the (only men's) Champions Trophy, with their medals restricted to a bronze each at the 1986 Asian Games.

**Dhanraj Pillay's** debut for the Indian hockey team in 1989 breathed new life into the sport as India boasted of a global superstar once more.

However, without adequate support, Pillay was unable to inspire a wave of success for the Indian hockey team, though he almost single-handedly ended India's Asian Games gold drought with a stellar individual campaign in 1998.

The women also continued to struggle globally through this period, though they won silver at the 1998 Asian Games.

The introduction of hockey at the Commonwealth Games in 1998 provided another platform for global hockey. The Indian men's and women's teams finished fourth in the inaugural edition.

The women's Indian hockey team then went on to win gold at the 2002 Commonwealth Games, an edition where the men were unable to qualify. The women then won silver in the 2006 edition, as the men could only manage sixth place, and bronze at the 2006 Asian Games.

The decline of Indian hockey hit rock bottom in 2008 when the men's team, for the first time since 1928, failed to qualify for the Beijing Olympics.

### **Revival of Indian Hockey**

After the disappointment of 2008, the men's Indian hockey team responded by returning to the podium at the 2010 Commonwealth Games, winning silver and the 2010 Asian Games, where they won bronze.

The men's Indian hockey team qualified for the 2012 London Olympics. Though India ended last, it represented a small bit of progress.

The men also qualified for Rio 2016 but this time, it was the women who stole the spotlight as they qualified for their first Olympic Games in 36 years.



In the years since, Indian hockey seems to have found its feet again.

The women's team, led by **Rani Rampal**, won silver at the 2018 Asian Games, achieving their best ranking of ninth in the world the same year.

The men's Indian hockey team has imbibed an attacking philosophy under new head coach **Graham Reid** and young captain **Manpreet Singh**.

The men's team played its first **FIH Pro League** campaign in 2020, winning games against the best in the world like Belgium, Australia and the Netherlands.

At Tokyo 2020, the men's hockey team ended a 41-year Olympic medal drought with a bronze medal after a thrilling win against Germany in the playoff.



The women's team, in only its third Olympic appearance, showed tremendous grit to finish fourth, narrowly losing out on the bronze medal to Great Britain.

India women also achieved one of their most famous victories when they knocked out favourites Australia in the quarter-finals

Both the men's and women's teams are formidable contenders on the global stage and Indian hockey is now in a position to reclaim the glory of old.

## *A Journey of Indian Hockey*

### *Introduction*

The history of hockey in India dates back to the rule of British regiments in India. Calcutta was the first city to organise a hockey club in 1885-86, followed by Bombay and Punjab. In 1908, the Bengal Hockey Association became India's first hockey association. As the game grew popular, organisations sprung up in places like Bombay, Bihar, Orissa, and Delhi.

In the 1928 Olympic Games in Amsterdam, India won the gold medal in hockey for the first time. For the fifth time in a row, India has won the Olympic Hockey Championship. The Indian Hockey Federation gained a name and reputation due to India's first Olympic entry in hockey, which ended in triumph. The best Indian hockey players were Dhyan Chand, Allen, Norris, Pinniger, Yusuf Gateley, and Cullen.

Women in India have also taken up hockey. The Asiad 82 has been expanded to include women's hockey. Their level of play is pretty high.

A series of coaching camps have aided the athletes in reaching a noteworthy level of performance.

### *Indian Hockey in International Fields*

Indian hockey's outstanding accomplishments at the Olympic Games were a source of national pride. The Indian hockey team competed in 1928 when they won the country's first Olympic gold medal. The Indian Hockey Team won six Olympic gold medals between 1928 and 1956, winning 24 consecutive matches and scoring 178 goals while surrendering only seven in their half. This period in Indian hockey is regarded as the game's golden age. The winning streak of Indian hockey ended in the 1960 Olympics in Rome. The squad subsequently lost 0-1 in the finals versus the Pakistan Hockey team.

The Indian hockey team earned a gold medal in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics and many bronze medals in the 1980 Moscow Olympics. The Indian hockey team's performance at the Olympic Games continued to worsen after 1980, resulting in the team's failure to win any medals.

In 1975, the Indian Men's Hockey team won the Hockey World Cup in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Indian women's hockey team won gold in the Commonwealth Games in Manchester, England in 2002.

### *History Of Indian Hockey in The Olympics*

#### 1928 Amsterdam Olympics

In 1928, India competed in the Olympics for the first time as British India. Only three officials from the Indian Hockey Federation went to the Bombay

port to see them off since no one expected them to arrive, but hundreds of people greeted them when they did. This championship included nine teams, with India placed in Group A with Belgium, Denmark, Switzerland, and Austria. Dhyan Chand, a national hero who is still remembered, was the standout of India's campaign, scoring 14 of the country's 29 goals. His hat-trick against finalist Holland holds a particular position in Indian history, as it was the first time the country won an Olympic gold medal.

### **1932 Los Angeles Olympics**

The journey from India to Los Angeles took 42 days by the water. Only three teams were competing, and India had set a new hockey record by scoring 35 goals against both the United States and Japan. In their first encounter, India defeated Japan 11-1, but the team's most memorable moment occurred when they trounced the host USA 24-1. India won both matches against the United States and Japan, making them the Olympic champions for the second time in a row.

### **1936 Berlin Olympics**

Dhyan Chand led the Indian team to victory in the Olympics. In an eight-team tournament, India was selected in Group A alongside Hungary, the United States, and Japan. India scored 20 goals against their group stage opponents without surrendering a single goal. Then, in the semi-final, India crushed France 10-0, setting up a final match against Germany. India won the final with an 8-1 score over Germany's hosts. But it was at the Olympics, Hitler saw Dhyan Chand's abilities and gave him German citizenship.

### **1948 London Olympics**

This was the first Olympics following the cancellation of the 1940 and 1944 Olympics due to World War II. The Indian Hockey team 1948 was competing as free India and an independent state for the first time. The final was played in front of a massive audience of 25000 people at Wembley Stadium. India



defeated Great Britain 4-0 to earn their fourth straight gold medal and the first gold medal for independent India.

### **1952 Helsinki Olympics**

This Olympics featured 13 teams competing in a knockout format. India had a bye in the first round and faced Austria in the quarterfinals. The Indian team cruised into the final, where the Netherlands met them. India overcame the Netherlands and won its sixth gold medal in the Olympics in a row. India's Balbir Singh scored 9 of the team's 13 goals, and Captain Digvijay Singh was awarded the titles of 'Best athlete of Asia' and 'Best hockey player in the world.'

### **1956 Melbourne Olympics**

Balbir Singh Sr, Leslie Claudius, Randhir Singh Gentle, and Ranganathan Francis were among the Indian hockey contingent for the Olympics, competing in their third Olympics. There were 12 teams, separated into three groups for this competition. India scored 36 goals in their group stage matches, resulting in a Semi-final encounter against Germany, which India won by a narrow 1-0 margin. Then, in the finals, India faced up against Pakistan, its arch-rival. The finals were held at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG), where India won their sixth gold medal in a row by defeating Pakistan 1-0.

### **1960 Rome Olympics**

Due to the retirement of Balbir Singh Sr from hockey, Leslie Claudius captained the team in his fourth Olympics. In the group rounds, India was pitted against Denmark, the Netherlands, and New Zealand, which they easily defeated and advanced to the knockout stages. In the semi-final, India narrowly defeated Great Britain, with a goal from Udham Singh making the difference. Pakistan was India's final opponent again, but this time they had eight of its eleven players who had previously played against India in the

1956 Olympics final. India was shocked to lose 0-1 to Pakistan in the final, ending their gold-medal winning streak.

### **1964 Tokyo Olympics**

With memories of losses to Pakistan in the 1960 Olympics and the 1962 Asia Cup, India was motivated to capture a gold medal here. The squad's captain, Charanjit Singh, guided the team to the finals with ease. India faced Pakistan in what was seen as a brutal final, with players from both teams playing so aggressively that officials were forced to intervene. India earned its seventh gold medal by beating Pakistan in the final, owing to Mohinder Lal's penalty conversion, which was the game's lone goal.

### **1968 Mexico Olympics**

Hockey was gaining popularity in both Europe and Asia. In the group stage match, India was defeated by New Zealand, which was India's first loss in the Olympics group stage. When India fell to Australia in the semi-finals, it was the first time India did not make it to the finals in the eighth Olympics. Despite this, India went on to win a bronze medal in the third-place play-off, defeating West Germany 2-1.

### **1972 Munich Olympics**

This squad consisted of only four participants from the 1968 Olympics. The team's captain was Harmek Singh. This squad also included Vece Paes, Leander Paes' father. India was undefeated in the group stage, which had seven teams. When the Israeli team was assaulted, the game was suspended for two days, and India was due to meet Pakistan in the semi-final. The next day, India lost in the semi-final against Pakistan, and it is thought that the tragedy disrupted India's rhythm. They won bronze after defeating Holland 2-1 in the third-place play-off.

### **1976 Montreal Olympics**

When astroturf was initially utilised as a pitch in field hockey games, the game's playing surface changed. With three wins and two defeats in the

group rounds, India and Australia were equal for second place, forcing a play-off match between them to determine the group's second-place team. Australia advanced to the semi-finals after defeating India in the play-off. India was eliminated from medal contention for the first time in 58 years, finishing in seventh place.

### **1980 Moscow Olympics**

Following bronze medal finishes in 1968 and 1972 and the much more stunning 1976 Olympics, India made a great comeback in this Olympics. After nine teams withdrew, the Olympics were reduced to a six-team tournament. With ease, India cruised to the finals, setting up a showdown with Spain in the final. India won their seventh gold medal in the Olympics after defeating Spain 4-3 in the final. Unfortunately, this was India's final Olympic medal in hockey. The Indian women's team competed in their first Olympics and finished fourth.

### **1984 Los Angeles Olympics**

A total of 12 countries competed in the Olympic tournament. India was grouped with Australia, West Germany, Spain, Malaysia, and the United States in Group A. India only lost to Australia in the group rounds, and the must-win game against West Germany resulted in a tie, knocking India out of the semi-finals. India went on to win two more classification matches, putting them in fifth place overall.

### **1988 Seoul Olympics**

Following disappointing performances in the 1986 World Cup and other events, the Indian squad went to the 1988 Olympics with a slew of issues, including selection, captaincy, and so on. Pargat Singh was appointed captain of the team, which angered the seniors because it was his first Olympics. With India losing 0-1 to Russia and drawing 1-1 with Germany in the next encounter, the off-field issues were abundantly visible. After losing to Pakistan, India was put in the 5-8 classification matches and finished sixth.



### **1992 Barcelona Olympics**

It was a 12-team competition at the game. India was grouped with Argentina, Egypt, Germany, the United Kingdom, and Australia. Only two of India's matches were won, against Argentina and Egypt. As a result, India was relegated to the 5-8 classification matches, where they finished seventh.

### **1996 Atlanta Olympics**

Spain, Germany, Pakistan, Argentina, and the United States were placed with India. Only two matches, against Spain and the United States, were won by India. India competed in the 5-8 classification matches for the fourth consecutive Olympics, where they ended eighth after losing both matches.

### **2000 Sydney Olympics**

India was placed alongside Australia, South Korea, Argentina, Poland, and Spain in Group B. India finished third despite two victories and two draws, relegating them to the 5-8 classification rounds. India lost to Great Britain in a classification match but won against Argentina, putting them in seventh place.

### **2004 Athens Olympics**

Dhanraj Pillay competed in his fourth Olympics at the age of 35. The Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and Argentina were placed with India. India only won one of its five league matches, finishing fourth in the group. In the 5-8 classification match, India defeated Korea and finished in seventh place.

### **2008 Beijing Olympics**

India failed to qualify for the Olympics for the first time in 88 years. Great Britain in the final of the World hockey Olympic qualification event held in Santiago, Chile. From the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics until the 2004 Athens Olympics, India's hockey record of 18 appearances at the Olympics was shattered.

## 2012 London Olympics

The Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, South Korea, New Zealand, and India were all placed in Group B. After failing to win a single game throughout the tournament, India placed bottom in the group. India defeated South Africa 2-3 in the 11-12 classification games, culminating in India's lowest finish at the Olympics.

## 2016 Rio Olympics

### **Men**

This Olympics featured a new structure in which the top four teams from each group qualified to compete in the knockout rounds. India was paired with Germany, the Netherlands, Argentina, Ireland, and Canada on the list. Only two of India's matches against Ireland and Argentina were won, and they finished fourth in their group. India's fourth-place finish earned them a quarter-final match against Belgium, which they lost 1-3. India came in eighth place overall in the event.

### **Women**

The Indian women qualified for the Olympics for the second time, the first being in 1980. The Indian women's squad was pitted against the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia, Argentina, and Japan. India failed to win a single match and finished bottom in both the group and the tournament.

## 2021 Tokyo Olympics

### **Men**

After leading the Indian men's hockey team to a bronze medal triumph at the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo, the squad players inscribed their names in history. India had to defeat Germany in a dramatic, exhilarating, and challenging match that went down to the wire. Despite being behind twice

throughout the match, India managed to pull off a miraculous comeback 5-4 victory to beat Germany and finish on the podium.

### **Women**

The Indian women's hockey team was denied a medal at the Tokyo Olympics after losing to the Rio Olympics gold champion Great Britain in the bronze medal match. However, coach Sjoerd Marijne's squad may be proud of their fourth-place performance at the Tokyo Olympics, which was their best-ever finish in Olympic history (while India had also finished fourth in 1980, only six teams competed the Moscow Games in a round-robin format).



### Most gold medals at Olympics field hockey (**MEN**)

India	8 (1928, 1932, 1936, 1948, 1952, 1956, 1964, 1980)
Germany*	4 (1972, 1992, 2008, 2012)
Pakistan	3 (1960, 1968, 1984)
Great Britain	3 (1908*, 1920, 1988)
Netherlands	2 (1996, 2000)
Australia	1 (2004)



<b>India</b>	<b>8 (1928, 1932, 1936, 1948, 1952, 1956, 1964, 1980)</b>
New Zealand	1 (1976)
Argentina	1 (2016)

### India's field hockey medals at Olympic Games

Venue	Year	Medal	Captain
Amsterdam	1928	Gold	Jaipal Singh
Los Angeles	1932	Gold	Lal Shah Bokhari
Berlin	1936	Gold	Dhyan Chand
London	1948	Gold	Kishan Lal
Helsinki	1952	Gold	KD Singh 'Babu'
Melbourne	1956	Gold	Balbir Singh Sr
Rome	1960	Silver	Leslie Claudius
Tokyo	1964	Gold	Charanjit Singh
Mexico	1968	Bronze	Prithipal Singh Gurbux Singh
Munich	1972	Bronze	Harmik Singh
Moscow	1980	Gold	Vasudevan Baskaran
Tokyo	2021	Bronze	Manpreet Singh

## Indian hockey's **GOLDEN** streak at the Olympics Games:

1928: Played 5, won 5 (29 scored, 0 conceded)

1932: Played 2, won 2 (35 scored, 2 conceded)

1936: Played 5, won 5 (38 scored, 1 conceded)

1948: Played 5, won 5 (25 scored, 2 conceded)

1952: Played 3, won 3 (13 scored, 2 conceded)

1956: Played 5, won 5 (38 scored, 0 conceded)

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### **Indian Teams in Olympics**

#### **1928: Jaipal Singh (C)**

Richard Allen, Dhyan Chand, Maurice Gateley, William Goodsir-Cullen, Leslie Hammond, Feroz Khan, George Marthins, Rex Norris, Broome Penniger (VC), Michael Rocque, Frederic Seaman, Ali Shaukat, Sayed Yusuf, Kher Singh Gill and Nawab of Pataudi.

#### **1932: Lal Shah Bokhari (C)**

Richard Allen, Muhammad Aslam, Frank Brewin, Richard Carr, Dhyan Chand, Leslie Hammond, Arthur Hind, Sayed Jaffar, Masud Minhas, Broome Penniger, Gurmit Singh Kullar, Roop Singh, William Sullivan and Carlyle Tapsell

#### **1936: Dhyan Chand (C)**

Richard Allen, Ali Dara, Lionel Emmett, Peter Fernandes, Joseph Galibardy, Earnest Goodsir-Cullen, Mohammed Hussain, Sayed Jaffar (VC), Ahmed Sher Khan, Ahsan Khan, Mirza Masood, Cyril Michie, Baboo Nimal, Joseph Phillips, Shabban Shahab-ud-Din, G.S. Garewal, Roop Singh and Carlyle Tapsell.

#### **1948: Kishan Lal (C)**

Leslie Claudius, Keshav Dutt, Walter D'Souza, Lawrie Fernandes, Ranganathan Francis, Gerry Glacken, Akhtar Hussain, Patrick Jansen, Amir Kumar, Leo Pinto, Jaswant Singh Rajput, Latif-ur-Rehman, Reginald Rodrigues, Balbir Singh Sr., Randhir Singh Gentle, Grahnanandan Singh, K. D. Singh Babu (VC), Trilochan Singh and Maxie Vaz.

**1952: K. D. Singh Babu (C)**

Leslie Claudius, Meldric Daluz, Keshav Dutt, Chinadorai Deshmutu, Ranganathan Francis, Raghbir Lal, Govind Perumal, Muniswamy Rajgopal, Balbir Singh Sr., Randhir Singh Gentle, Udham Singh, Swarup Singh, Jaswant Singh, C.S. Dubey, C.S. Gurung, Dharam Singh and Grahanandan Singh.

**1956: Balbir Singh Sr.(C)**

Leslie Claudius, Ranganathan Francis, Haripal Kaushik, Amir Kumar, Raghbir Lal, Shankar Lakshman, Govind Perumal, Amit Singh Bakshi, Raghbir Singh Bhola, Hardyal Singh Garchey, Randhir Singh Gentle, Balkishan Singh Grewal, Gurdev Singh Kullar, Udham Singh Kullar, Bakshish Singh, O.P. Malhotra and Charles Stephen.

***Some important web links:***

- 01] <https://olympics.com/en/news/indian-field-hockey-history-legacy-olympics-world-cup-dhyan-chand-balbir>
- 02] <https://blog.decathlon.in/articles/history-of-hockey-in-india#article-body>
- 03] <https://thesportsschool.com/the-evolution-of-hockey-in-india/>
- 04] <https://www.iloveindia.com/sports/hockey/history.html>
- 05] <https://www.kreedon.com/history-of-hockey-in-india/?amp>
- 06] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International\\_Hockey\\_Federation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Hockey_Federation)
- 07] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Field\\_hockey](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Field_hockey)
- 08] <https://olympics.com/en/news/indian-hockey-player-dhyan-chand-selling-autographs-beighton-don-bradman>
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- 10] <https://www.hockeyindia.org/national-team/india-women-profile-11>
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